

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 042860 SENT ACTION TOKYO INFO CINCPAC

USUN NY CNBERRA CINCPACREP GUAM DTD 2/25/75

QUOTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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CINCPACRE PASS TO HICOM AND STATUS LNO SAIPAN

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TQ, PGOV

SUBJECT: FUTURE STATUS OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

REF: TOKYO 1484 (NOTAL)

1. IN RESPONSE TO EMBASSY REQUEST FOR GUIDANCE CONTAINED
PARA 2 REFTEL, YOU MAY USE FOLLOWING IN RESPONSE TO GOJ
AND PRESS QUERIES. DATE FOR PLEBISCITE, TO WHICH US WILL
INVITE UN OBSERVERS, HAS NOT BEEN SET BUT WE HOPE THAT IT
WILL TAKE PLACE IN LAST TWO WEEKS OF JUNE 1975. PRESENT
PLANS CALL FOR SUBMITTING COVENANT TO U.S. CONGRESS FOR
APPROVAL IN SUMMER 1975 FOLLOWING APPROVAL OF COVENANT
BY PEOPLE OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS IN PLEBISCITE. AS
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NOTED IN "REPORT OF THE JOINT DRAFTING COMMITTEE ON THE

NEGOTIATING HISTORY" APPROVED BY U.S. AND NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS DELEGATIONS ON FEBRUARY 15, 1975, "IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUEST OF THE MARIANAS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE, THE UNITED STATES INTENDS TO ADMINISTER THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT SEPARATELY FROM THE REMAINDER OF THE TRUST TERRITORY FOLLOWING APPROVAL OF THE COVENANT BY THE PEOPLE OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS." NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS WOULD NOT, HOWEVER, ACHIEVE COMMONWEALTH STATUS UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE TRUSTEESHIP IS TERMINATED. WE HAVE INFORMED UN TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL THAT UNITED STATES INTENDS TO TERMINATE TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT SIMULTANEOUSLY FOR ALL PARTS OF THE TRUST TERRITORY AND NOT FOR ONE PART SEPARATELY. NEGOTIATING HISTORY DOCUMENT REFERRED TO ABOVE STATES "THE PARTIES NOTE THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS STATED THAT IT IS NOW PLANNING ON A PROVISIONAL BASIS TO TERMINATE THE TRUSTEESHIP FOR ALL THE DISTRICTS BY 1981".

2. COPIES OF COVENANT, TECHNICAL AGREEMENT REGARDING USE OF LAND TO BE LEASED AND REPORT OF JOINT DRAFTING COMMITTEE ON THE NEGOTIATING HISTORY BEING POUCHED TO EMBASSY. EA/ANP ON FEBRUARY 21 PROVIDED COPIES TO JAPANESE EMBASSY FIRST SECRETARY KUBOTA, DRAWING ATTENTION TO COVENANT SECTION 904 ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND ARTICLE X ON APPROVAL PROCESS AND DATES ON WHICH COVENANT PROVISIONS COME INTO EFFECT. IN RESPONSE KUBOTA QUERY RE U.S. PLANS FOR MILITARY USE OF TINIAN, WE NOTED THAT WE HAD PROVIDED INFORMATION TO FONOFF THROUGH EMBASSY TOKYO (STATE 023559 AND PREVIOUS MESSAGES). WE DREW ATTENTION TO ARTICLE VIII OF COVENANT RE LEASE OF LAND FOR MILITARY USE, NOTING THAT AT PRESENT MAJOR PLANNED USE FOR LAND ON TINIAN IS FOR GROUND, SEA AND AIR TRAINING EXERCISES, THAT PRESENT PLANS CALL FOR UP-GRADING SAN JOSE HARBOR AND WEST FIELD, AND THAT THERE ARE NO PRESENT PLANS TO CONSTRUCT ANY PERMANENT STRUCTURES OR TO STATION MILITARY PERSONNEL ON TINIAN.

3. FOR EMBASSY CANBERRA: ABOVE INFORMATION HAS ALSO BEEN PROVIDED TO AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY. COVENANT BEING POUCHED TO EMBASSY CANBERRA. KISSINGER UNQUOTE
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